sent of both India and Pakistan. As Pakistan is against the deletion of this item, it continues to remain on the agenda of the Security Council.

(c) The UN Secretary General has expressed his willingness to render whatever assistance may be needed to facilitate an early and peaceful resolution of differences between India and Pakistan, including Kashmir, provided both India and Pakistan so request. Pakistan has accepted the offer of the Secretary-General. The Government of India, however, remains committed to discussions of all outstanding issues with Pakistan only bilaterally under the Simla Agreement.

Completion of pending irrigation projects in Maharashtra

522. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as 39 major irrigation projects are lying incomplete in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to complete these projects expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of these Projects are given in the Annexure. [*See Appendix 179, Annexure No. 12*]

(c) To expedite completion of ongoing major & medium irrigation & multipurpose projects, the Union Government has also launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme with budget allocation of Rs. 900 crores during 1996-97 under which Central loan Assistance is provided to the State Governments on matching basis. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 20 crores has been approved for Gosikhurd irrigation project of Maharashtra. Other steps taken for timely completion of the projects are, giving priority to those projects which have made substantial progress, earmarking by the Planning Commission of outlays for important projects, setting up of cost control cells in the States etc.

Repeal of the Illegal Migrants Act, 1983

523. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to repeal the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is proposed to be repealed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Proposals have been received from various quarters for the repeal of the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983. No decision in the matter has yet been taken.

टेलीफोन सेवा

524. **श्री रामजीलाल:** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में टेलीफोन-ठीक किये जाने संबंधी स्थिति अत्यंत शोचनीय है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि हिसार में सांसदों के टेलीफोन भी महीनों से ठीक नहीं किये जा रहे हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस स्थिति में सुधार लाने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाए हैं?

संचार मंत्री (श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा) (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) उक्त (क) को देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) माननीय संसद सदस्यों के टेलीफोनों सहित महत्वपूर्ण टेलीफोनों की जांच प्रतिदिन की जाती है और खराब होने की स्थिति में उन्हें शीघ्र ठीक कर दिया जाता है।

(घ) उक्त भाग (ग) को देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।